

16 January 1952

Mr. Carl R. Gray, Jr., Administrator of Veteran's Affairs
United States Veteran's Administration
Vermont Avenue at H Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Gray:

On 18 September 1951, the Acting Personnel Director of Central Intelligence Agency addressed a letter to the Manager, Washington Regional Office, Veteran's Administration, on behalf of [REDACTED] an employee of this Agency, who had been taking evening courses at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service, under provisions of the Serviceman's Readjustment Act. [REDACTED] had been advised by his superiors in this organization that it would be necessary for him to make a trip overseas which would require that he be away from Washington for several months. At that time, [REDACTED] was the only employee with the required skills who could be sent on this important and urgent assignment. Both [REDACTED] and the Acting Personnel Director of this Agency wrote a letter to the Manager of the Washington Regional Office, explaining that it would be necessary for him to interrupt his studies during the Fall Term and requested permission for [REDACTED] to defer his V.A. sponsored educational program until the 1952 spring semester.

Nearly a month later, on 17 October 1951, while [REDACTED] was overseas, a letter was addressed to him from the Regional Office which stated in part:

"Under existing regulations, interruption of your training for employment reasons is not considered beyond your control. Therefore, you may not reenter training as requested."

It is our understanding that an exception to the above regulation is granted in some instances, namely, to service personnel who are transferred or ordered to duty. As you are aware, the mission of this Agency is such that our activities are in direct support of the National Military Establishment. Many of our employees, including [REDACTED] take employment with this organization with the understanding that if required, they may be shipped overseas at any time. [REDACTED] inability to continue his training at the Fall Term was

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due entirely to an official decision over which he had no control. We believe that his diligence in continuing his studies on his own time (a line of study which, incidentally, will promote his effectiveness in this organization) in addition to serving his country on demand is commendable, and that this organization has done him a disservice if we have caused him to lose his remaining eligibility under the Serviceman's Readjustment Act.

We should appreciate it if you would consider this case on its merits and authorize a waiver of the regulations to permit reenrollment of [REDACTED] for the Spring Term.

In the event that the above information is not sufficient to reach a favorable decision on this matter, it is requested that arrangements be made to discuss the matter verbally in greater detail with Mr. George E. Meloon, Personnel Director, on extension 611.

Very truly yours,

15/
[REDACTED]
Assistant Director

FTD/MLE/AJT/ps

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